

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 087352  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:DKEOGH:RCB  
APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB  
AF:WESCHAUFEELE  
IO:JBAKER  
S/S:PSHANKLE

-----190208Z 000797 /75-62

O 190115Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 087352

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, SF, US

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN COMMENTS ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. ASSOCIATED PRESS STORY PUBLISHED IN APRIL 18 WASHINGTON POST HAS SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA SAYING IN INTERVIEWS PUBLISHED APRIL 16 IN SOUTH AFRICA THAT HE DOES NOT SEE HOW SOUTH AFRICA CAN IN THE FUTURE DEAL WITH ANDREW YOUNG, US AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS. THIS WAS APPARENTLY IN LIGHT OF THE LATTER'S REPORTED REMARKS LAST WEEK ON THE LEGITIMACY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT.

2. BOTHA WAS QUOTED AS SAYING QTE I CAN HARDLY SEE THE  
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SOUTH AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVE SPEAKING TO A MAN WHO  
QUESTIONS OUR LEGITIMACY UNQTE.

3. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT SHARP TONE AND CONTENT OF  
SHEARER DEMARCHE AND BOTHA PROTEST DID NOT ADEQUATELY TAKE  
INTO ACCOUNT FACT THAT THEY WERE CLEARLY BASED ON AP  
STORY WHICH MADE YOUNG STATEMENT APPEAR FAR MORE CATE-

GORICAL THAN IT, IN FACT, WAS. BOTHA'S FURTHER STATEMENT, MADE AFTER MATTER HAD BEEN CLARIFIED, ALSO REGRETTABLE IN OUR VIEW.

4. AT NEXT APPROPRIATE MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA YOU SHOULD SAY TO HIM THAT IN THE LIGHT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S REMARKS ON SATURDAY, APRIL 16, AFFIRMING OUR VIEW OF THE LEGITIMACY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, IT WOULD BE BEST TO PUT THIS ISSUE BEHIND US. THE PRESIDENT HAS REAFFIRMED THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON THE QUESTION.

5. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE PRESIDENT ALSO STATED HIS CONTINUED CONFIDENCE IN AMBASSADOR YOUNG AS A CABINET OFFICER IN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. WE BELIEVE FURTHER COMMENT ON HIS REMARKS WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE.  
VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, SF, US, UN, (YOUNG, ANDREW), (BOTH, PIK)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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